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(54) **Process for the stereochemical inversion of (2S,3S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-1,3-propanediols into their (2R,3R) enantiomers.**

(57) A four step process for transforming (2S,3S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-1,3-propanediols into their (2R,3R)-enantiomers is described. The final compounds are useful intermediates for the synthesis of antibiotics like Chloramphenicol, Thiamphenicol and Florfenicol. The starting products generally are discard products in the synthesis of said antibiotics.

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 11 9803

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
D,A	TETRAHEDRON LETTERS, vol. 29, no. 43, 1988, OXFORD GB pages 5561 - 5564; C. GIORDANO ET AL.: 'New Strategy for Racemization of 2-Amino-1,3-Propanediols, Key Intermediates for the Synthesis of Antibiotic Drugs' * the whole document *	1-20	C07B55/00 C07C323/32 C07C317/32 C07C323/39 C07C215/34 C07C213/10 C07D263/06
D,A	EP-A-0 130 633 (ZAMBON S.P.A.) * the whole document *	1-20	
D,A	EP-A-0 014 437 (SCHERING CORPORATION) * claims; examples 1,4,9,12-14 *	1-20	
A	US-A-2 742 500 (WALTER A. GREGORY AND MARVIN PAULSHOCK) * the whole document *	1-20	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			C07C C07D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 MARCH 1992	Examiner ZERVAS B.
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b>			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	